

The Relation of the Ministry to Reform.

EDITOR ADVOCATE:—I think your criticisms on the attitude of Christians and the Christian ministry in particular, toward reform work, entirely too severe, and will not bear impartial criticism, nor stand in the light of candid history. While it was, and is now, lamentably true that many so-called Christian ministers, have sold their principles, like political editors, to money and position, and sought to evade great moral questions like the People's party does in regard to prohibition, yet in nothing like the proportion indicated in your editorial. There was enough in most all great denominations who opposed the sin of slavery, to divide the church, and some smaller churches opposed it as a whole.

In regard to a prohibition plank winning to your party "the noblest army of Christian reformers the world has ever seen," I still contend it is true, but refer more to quality than to numbers. I can see no intelligent reason why the prohibition party and yours could not unite if this one more plank was added, and I think, Brother McLellan, if you were running for president that the many thousand prohibition voters would seem to you a mighty host, and as to their loyalty to principle, the fact that for years they have stood firm and undaunted for the right proves to me that there is more pure, unalloyed Christianity in the prohibition party than in the same number of men in any other party in the world. These are men which no political party with moral principles and good character could afford to lose. Besides the noble army of female reformers now working in unison with the prohibition party, could make common cause with you and throw the whole weight of their influence in your favor. In the very issue of your paper in which my former article was printed, I read in the news items that the conference of a great denomination in your own district affirmed that they would not vote with, or affiliate with, any party which did not put themselves on record plainly on prohibition.

In the same paper, I believe, I saw where two ministers eloquently defended the rights of the poor and the oppressed, and this is only a sample of what is going on all over this land in the moulding of public sentiment by the Christian ministry. In the Christian work in which I am engaged, I think it would be hard to find a minister who votes with the old parties. Our editor has surely been sadly neglected in his religious education, or else been connected with a people who had much aristocracy and little salvation, or he would not think that so large a proportion of the ministry would sell their principle for money. Some ministers may do what I am afraid the People's party is doing, feel of the popular pulse and consult policy and popular favor, instead of being loyal to God and right; but it is a lack of Christianity which causes it.

I could not in the short space of a single article tell how Wesley declared that slavery was worse than robbery on the high seas. How Adam Clark declared that in civilized nations hell itself would hardly seem a sufficient punishment. How Finney suffered incarceration in prison, and Lovejoy sealed his devotion to the cause of freedom with his blood. How Orange Scott fired the hearts of the people with holy enthusiasm, when he affirmed in open conference, that they could no more smother down the slavery agitation than they could put out the fires of a volcano, keep back the ocean tides, or stay the light-

ning in its course. I might come down to later times and show how Christianity and the ministers have given their martyrs to the cause of prohibition, like Haddock of Iowa, and challenge our talented editor to show a single martyr from the ranks of infidelity and skepticism, who gave their life blood in time of peace in devotion to these great moral reforms. But I will not go further in this article:

"But if some proper hour appear,
I'll not be overawed,
But let the scoffing sinner know
That I can speak for God."

H. B. GOODRICK.

Solomon and Victory.

The convention Tuesday covered itself all over with glory when it nominated the stalwart, big-hearted friend of the great common people, Henry C. Solomon, a candidate for congress from this district.

Mr. Solomon had lived in Atchison for the past quarter of a century and in this residence has always stood on the side of the people—the masses against the classes, and that is where he will stand in the house of representatives.

Mr. Solomon is so well known throughout the First district that any eulogy of ours would be entirely superfluous. He is known to be the soul of honor, and his word is as good as any bond, and when he says as he did in the convention that he is with us through the war our people can safely stake their lives he is what he says and will do his duty to the uttermost.

This is a year for our people to labor as they never have done before. Treason to the best interests of the people of the land is enthroned in high places and the only relief from the burdens of unjust legislation which now oppresses our nation must come through proper laws and these can only be enacted by the People's party. — Farmer's Vindicator, Valley Falls.

MOUNTAIN LAKE PARK.

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Just a suggestion: Why not try the Rocky mountains? No better medicine exists than the dry, clear, balsamic air of that region. Anywhere around Pike's Peak, or further into the range (like Glenwood Springs) will do. Did you whisper trout fishing? Yes, plenty of it; off the railroads, in secluded nooks.

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BELOIT, Kan., May 14, 1894.

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We demand that the postal savings bank be established by the government for the safe deposit of the earnings of the people and to facilitate exchange.

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LANDS.

Third—The land, including all the material resources of wealth, is the heritage of the people, and should not be monopolized for speculative purposes, and alien ownership of land should be prohibited. And lands now held by railroads and other corporations in excess of their actual needs, and all lands now owned by aliens should be reclaimed by the government or actual settlers only.

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